

Club chairman Mr. Jack Smethurst said that it had been a very good season financially but the club could not afford to sit back and rest on their laurels, they would still have to consider ways of raising money as the profit would go quickly. He added that it was pleasing to see match and training expenses had remained fairly stable — the increase of £500 considering the cost of travel being a fine achievement. Main increases were on rates, up from £700 to £1,034 and insurance, up from £252 to £494.

Mr. Smethurst thanked the supporters club for their "tremendous" work and also the tea ladies, committee and fund raiser Frank Darby. He also paid tribute to Mr. Reg Williams who had taken over from the chairman during his illness and to Brian Lee, John Reardon, trainer Jock Sheppard and all the players.

The question of free friendly matches was raised from the floor. A criticism was made that the standard of some of the friendly matches did not compare with the Premier Midweek Floodlight League, which Wycombe left at the end of the 1973/74 season. Season ticket holders were allowed in free of charge for six friendlies but matches against Molesey, Oxford University, Stevenage, Loughborough, Hungerford and Basingstoke were not particularly attractive, it was said. Mr. Smethurst accepted the criticism and said the matter would be considered.

There was also criticism of the issue of F.A. Cup tickets last season. Some season ticket holders, it was stated, had to queue with other people for tickets, some of whom had not seen Wycombe play before. The chairman replied that efforts had been made to cater for season ticket holders but the organisation involved was enormous.

Asked if there was any move afoot regarding hospital expansion at Loakes Park, Mr. Smethurst said there was no change in the current situation.

The question of gate increases was also raised. The chairman said this was a matter for the committee to decide but he

thought that some increases were likely.

The chairman declined to comment on a quip from the floor that Wanderers would be represented by the supporters club in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup next season. A tribute was paid to the chairman by Mr. H. J. Roberts.

Mr. Lee said the supporters had a great bearing on the players' achievements last term, especially in the big games. But he warned that success could not last forever. "We don't know what will happen next season, how higher can we go? We must prepare for a moderate season and something we must have is character. This must also be shown on the terraces.

"Don't expect us to win all the time. If we don't, it won't be through lack of effort — that is something I will not tolerate. But if we do have an average season it is important for members to pacify the terraces."

Commenting on the League

success after the F.A. Cup run, Mr. Lee said: "We got through on character in the end. It wasn't the best side I've had and not the most skilful. We have lost some of that character with the departure of Alan Phillips, Keith Searle and Gary Hand."

On the subject of contracts, which come into force this season, Mr. Lee felt that there would be very little difference from the old set up. "Players will be on contract from the beginning to the end of the season at a fixed remuneration which will be taxed. The only main difference is that players are now bound by a piece of paper and not a verbal agreement as before. We will start with 14-15 contracted players and I hope to finish with the same group.

Officers elected: President — Mr. Seymour, chairman — J. Smethurst, treasurer — R. Lee, secretary — A. Mahoney, match secretary — J. Richardson, Committee: C. Avery, R. Hart, J. Goldsworthy, G. Cox, A. Ward, G. Roberts, H. Wharton, R. Williams. D. Carvell replaced T. Thomas.

Mr. Lee made his announcement about John Delaney in his question and answer session after the A.G.M. Earlier, it was reported that the club had finished last season with a £12,151 profit — £11,257 of which came from Wycombe's share of away F.A. Cup ties. This figure compared with £1,367 of the previous year.